Patent Conf. No. 3612 Serial No.: 10/072,477 Filing Date: 02/07/2002

Atty Docket No.: 2001-023

Remarks/Arguments:

Claims 1-20 are pending in this application.

Claims 2-4, 5-8, 11-14, 18 and 19, are objected to, but are indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim. Accordingly, appropriate ones of these Claims are so rewritten in independent form as the Examiner suggests. Thus, the indicated Claims are respectfully submitted to be ready for allowance.

Original Claims 1, 9, and 15-17 are canceled.

Claims rejected in view of art cited are canceled. Claims objected to are rewritten as the Examiner suggests. Thus, these claims are all now respectfully submitted to be allowable.

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Objection to the Drawings

The drawings are objected to because the Office Action asserts that the T-shaped recess

and T-shaped recess and insert member require a reference number. Respectfully, both of these

elements are already referred to with individual reference numbers in the specification as filed.

Please consider page 10, line 28, through page 12, line 4, where the T-shaped recess is

identified by reference numeral 162, and the T-shaped insert member is identified by numeral

164. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully submits that no amendment to the drawing is

required. This application was filed with informal drawings, and in view of the indication of

allowable subject matter in the present Office Action, formal drawings are being prepared for

this application, and will be submitted as soon as they are available.

In view of this amendment, both reconsideration and allowance of the Claims pending in

this application are respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned

at the number set out below if such will further or expedite prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: Thursday, June 17, 2004

Reg. No. 29,568

Attorney for Applicant

Law Offices of Terry L. Miller & Associates 24832 Via San Fernando

Mission Viejo, Ca 92692

(949) 951-8456 (voice and facsimile)

e-mail: TLMpatents@AOL.com

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